

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 03643 01 OF 02 022156Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 AGRE-00 L-03 DEAE-00 INR-10

IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00

USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-07 OMB-01 /070 W

-----093603 022225Z /41

P 022143Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO DEAHQS WASHDC PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8695

CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

ALL CONSULATES MEXICO BY POUCH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 MEXICO 03643

DEA MEX 0196

DEAHQS FOR ENOL, EN, IG

EO:11652:N/A

TAGS:SNAR/MX

SUBJECT: GOM ERADICATION AND INTERDICTION ACTIVITY REPORT,

FEBRUARY 13, 1978 THROUGH FEBRUARY 19, 1978 (GFTA-75-8001)

REPORT NO. 5, PHASE I-78.

1. GOM ERADICATION AND INTERDICTION STATISTICS FOR THE  
PAST WEEK ARE OUTLINED BELOW:

ERADICATION FEB 13/FEB 19

U.S. ZONE #S: I II III TOTAL

MEXICAN ZONE #S: 5-9 3-4 1-2

A. POPPY FIELDS 722 29 127 878

(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 6,818)

B. HECTARES 50.64 1.71 36.58 88.93

(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 608.59)

C. MARIHUANA 94 6 49 149

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 03643 01 OF 02 022156Z

(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 817)

D. HECTARES 5.72 .21 103.7 109.63

(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 204.14)

E. MIXED FIELDS 29 - - 29

(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 58)

F. HECTARES 1.67 - - 1.67

(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 6.32)

## INTERDICTION FEB 13/FEB 19

-	THIS PERIOD	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
A. KG. HEROIN	.644	29.087
B. KG. OPIUM	1.640	17.460
C. KG. POPPY SEEDS	1.650	7.850
D. HEROIN LABS	1	4
E. KG. COCAINE	8.446	13.057
F. KG. MARIHUANA	21,838	119,192
G. KG. MARIHUANA SEEDS	22.04	559.99
H. KG. HASHISH	-	2.65
I. LITERS HASHISH OIL	-	-
J. D.U. DANGEROUS DRUGS	502,232	994,159
K. ARRESTS-MEXICAN	127	755
L. ARRESTS-U.S.A.	3	22
M. ARRESTS-OTHER	1	8
N. VEHICLES	27	133
O. WEAPONS	23	333
P. AMMUNITION	19	18,945
Q. PESOS	819	157,559
R. DOLLARS	-	9,020
S. AIRCRAFT	4	12

2. LAST YEAR ERADICATION STATISTICS INCREASED STEADILY THROUGHOUT FEBRUARY AND REACHED THEIR PEAK IN THE FIRST WEEK OF MARCH. 1978 STATISTICS HAVE CONSISTENTLY BEEN BELOW THOSE OF LAST YEAR, AND THIS WEEK THEY DROPPED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 MEXICO 03643 01 OF 02 022156Z

THEIR LOWEST LEVEL IN THREE WEEKS. DURING THE SEVENTH WEEK OF 1978, ONLY 878 POPPY FIELDS WERE DESTROYED AS COMPARED WITH 2637 FIELDS DESTROYED DURING THE SAME WEEK OF LAST YEAR. THE FIELDS DESTROYED THIS WEEK TOTALED 88.93 HECTARES AS COMPARED WITH 540.58 HECTARES LAST YEAR. FOLLOWING A RECENT VISIT TO THE FIELD, EMBASSY OFFICERS CONCLUDED THAT REDUCED SPRAY ACTIVITY CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO: (A) INTENSE 1977 SPRAY ACTIVITY; (B) MILITARY PRESENCE WHICH HAS DETERRED PLANTING; AND (C) A PROLONGED DROUGHT AND UNUSUALLY COLD WEATHER. A FULL REPORT OF THAT VISIT IS BEING TRANSMITTED SEPARATELY.

3. GOM SEIZURES OF HEROIN AND OPIUM ARE ALSO RUNNING SOMEWHAT BELOW THE AVERAGE FIGURES WHICH PREVAILED THROUGHOUT LAST YEAR. IN 1977 THE GOM SEIZED AN AVERAGE OF 5.5 KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN AND 4.2 KILOGRAMS OF OPIUM PER WEEK. DURING THE FIRST SEVEN WEEKS OF 1978, 29.087 KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN (4.2 KILOGRAMS PER WEEK) AND 17.460 KILOGRAMS OF OPIUM (2.5 KILOGRAMS PER WEEK) HAVE BEEN SEIZED. THOSE FIGURES REPRESENT DECREASES OF 24 AND 40 RESPECTIVELY. INTERDICTION FIGURES, OF COURSE, FLUCTUATE WIDELY, AND IT IS STILL TOO EARLY TO TELL WHETHER OR NOT THIS DECREASE

IS MEANINGFUL.

4. THE MEXICAN ARMY HAS REPORTED DESTROYING LARGE POPPY FIELDS IN OAXACA. THIS MAY INDICATE CHANGING GROWTH PATTERNS, BUT THE POSSIBILITY OF ERRONEOUS REPORTING BY THE MILITARY SHOULD ALSO BE KEPT IN MIND. INQUIRY HAS BEEN MADE WITH THE MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE CONCERNING THE MILITARY REPORTS, AND THEY ARE PRESENTLY ATTEMPTING TO CONFIRM THE INFORMATION.

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 03643 02 OF 02 022201Z  
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 MEXICO 03643

5. THIS YEAR'S SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM COMPLETED ITS FOURTH WEEK ON FEBRUARY 21, 1978. DURING THE WEEK 36 RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS WERE REPORTED. DEA PARTICIPATED IN 26 (72) OF THE FLIGHTS. HAVING BEEN DELAYED BY FREQUENT BAD WEATHER, THE SOUTHERN TEAM IS STILL INVOLVED IN THE SWEEP OF THE SOUTHERN HALF OF MEXICO. THE NORTHERN TEAM COMPLETED THE NORTHERN HALF OF MEXICO ON FEBRUARY 19, 1978. AGENTS ASSIGNED TO THAT TEAM HAVE SINCE REPORTED TO THEIR ZONE HEADQUARTERS IN CULIACAN AND GUADALAJARA AND BEGUN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GOM PERMANENT ERADICATION CAMPAIGN.

6. DURING THE SUBJECT WEEK THE NORTHERN TEAM WAS STATIONED IN MEXICO CITY, TAMPICO, AND MONTERREY. THE SOUTHERN TEAM WAS STATIONED IN MINATITLAN AND TUXTLA GUTIERREZ. ALL OF THE SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS WERE MADE OUTSIDE OF THE ESTABLISHED ZONES AND KNOWN POPPY GROWING AREAS. 32 SECTORS WERE COMPLETED. 31 OF THEM WERE NEGATIVE. THE

ONE POSITIVE SECTOR WAS #317 IN THE STATE OF CHIAPAS BETWEEN TUXTLA GUTIERREZ AND TAPACHULA. TWO FIELDS OF POPPIES MIXED WITH CORN WERE FOUND IN THAT SECTOR. THE NEGALIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 03643 02 OF 02 022201Z

TIVE SECTORS WHICH WERE COMPLETED ARE LISTED BELOW:

98	134	152	184	309
99	135	153	212	310
100	136	166	228	312
113	137	167	229	318
114	138	182	243	319
131	151	183	308	320
133				

7. INFORMATION HAS ALSO BEEN RECEIVED CONCERNING THE LOCATION OF ADDITIONAL POPPY FIELDS IN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED SECTORS. THAT INFORMATION IS SUMMARIZED BELOW:

ZONE I SECTOR 72 - 47 ADDITIONAL FIELDS

SECTOR 81 - 17 ADDITIONAL FIELDS

SECTOR 82 - 24 ADDITIONAL FIELDS

SECTOR 139 - 18 ADDITIONAL FIELDS

ZONE II - SECTOR 171 - 2 ADDITIONAL FIELDS

SECTOR 172 - 3 ADDITIONAL FIELDS

SECTOR 173 - 2L ADDITIONAL FIELDS

ZONE III - SECTOR 253 - 15 ADDITIONAL FIELDS

SECTOR 258 - 4 ADDITIONAL FIELDS

8. THE ABOVE FIGURES WERE REPORTED EITHER BY SPRAY MISIONS, IN WHICH CASE THEY HAVE ALREADY BEEN DESTROYED, OR BY ADDITIONAL RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS. WE DO NOT YET HAVE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE PRECISE LOCATION OF FIELDS IDENTIFIED OR SPRAYED AND ARE THEREFORE UNABLE TO MATCH RECONNAISSANCE AND SPRAY REPORTS ACCURATELY.

ACTING RD SAUCEDO; THOMPSON

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PAGE 03 MEXICO 03643 02 OF 02 022201Z

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## Message Attributes

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